

Vacancy Details

Personnel Notice: 39-15
Date Announced: 04/03/2015
Closing Date: 5/1/2015
Command: Space and Naval Warfare Command
Grade: NO-5/6 (GS equivalent of GS-13, 14, 15)
Type: Patent Attorney

There is a vacancy for an attorney to serve as a Patent Attorney within the Office of Counsel, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific (SSC Pacific); the position is located in San Diego, California.

SSC Pacific is a research and development center for command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems (C4ISR) and is a field activity of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR). The candidate selected will primarily provide patent application drafting and prosecution services in the fields of mechanical and electrical engineering or computer science. Additional duties may include counseling on intellectual property matters; counseling on contract and technology transfer matters; reviewing and negotiating patent licenses; resolving patent and copyright administrative claims; counseling on contract surveillance regarding invention disclosure; and counseling on rights in technical data and computer software. For additional information on SSC Pacific and SPAWAR, go to www.spawar.navy.mil.

SSC Pacific is under the Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory (STRL) Personnel Management Demonstration Project, a contribution-based assessment and compensation system using pay bands with salary ranges. The vacancy will be filled at the NO-05/06 level, (which is comparable to the GS-13/14/15 level). Pay will be set commensurate with the successful applicant's qualifications, funding availability, and STRL pay setting guidelines. To be eligible for selection at the NO-05 level (comparable to a GS-13), the applicant must have in excess of two years of successful legal practice as an attorney, some of which is in the intellectual property practice areas noted above. To be eligible for selection at the bottom half of the NO-06 level (comparable to a GS-14), the applicant must have in excess of 3 ½ years of successful practice as an attorney, a significant portion of which is in the intellectual property practice areas noted above. To be eligible for selection at the upper half of the NO-06 level (comparable to a GS-15), the applicant must have in excess of 5 ½ years of successful practice as an attorney, a substantial portion of which is in the intellectual property practice areas noted above.

Candidates will be evaluated on the following criteria: (1) their patent prosecution and intellectual property knowledge, skills and abilities, especially US patent application drafting and prosecution experience; (2) their ability to cooperate and communicate with clients and other staff in both team and individual situations; (3) their potential for growth in the relevant practice areas and ability to manage and allocate resources; (4) their ability to lead, manage and integrate efforts for mission and program success; and (5) the relevance of their technical education.

The successful candidate must have an undergraduate degree in engineering or science, have graduated from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association, be an active member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of a State, U.S. Commonwealth, U.S. territory, or the District of Columbia, be admitted to practice before a state or federal court, and, be admitted to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. U.S. citizenship is a requirement of the position, and the successful applicant must be able to obtain and maintain a SECRET clearance.

To apply for this position, candidates must submit a resume and cover letter that address the evaluation criteria for this position. Applicants with fewer than five years since law school graduation must also submit a law school transcript. Candidates selected for interviews will be asked to provide two writing samples, references, and their two most recent performance assessments. These materials will be considered in the evaluation process. Electronic submissions are preferred and should be submitted to Ms. Vandy Lehman, Legal Assistant, at vandy.lehman@navy.mil.

Documents not sent electronically should be sent to:

Kyle Eppelle
SSC Pacific
Office of Counsel (Code 30)
53560 Hull Street
San Diego, CA 92152-5001

Interested attorneys should contact Mr. Kyle Eppelle, Patent Counsel, SSC Pacific, at (619) 553-3001 or kyle.eppelle@navy.mil for more information.

This Personnel Notice will close at 11:59PM, EST on May 1, 2015 and applications must be received by this time to be considered.

If the successful candidate is not currently a member of the Navy Office of General Counsel, processing of the hiring action can only commence after submission of those items identified in the "Instructions for New OGC Attorneys" in the Careers Section at www.ogc.navy.mil.

Applicants eligible for Veterans' Preference must specifically claim such eligibility in their cover letter, identify the basis for the claim, and include supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty or other supporting documentation) with their submission. Not all veterans are preference eligible. For a summary of time periods, campaigns, and conditions that entitle an applicant to preference eligibility, please visit www.opm.gov/veterans and review the "Vets Info Guide" and the "Vets Guide." There is no formal rating system for applying Veterans' Preference for attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy Office of the General Counsel considers Veterans' preference eligibility a positive factor in the attorney hiring process. Applicants who do not claim and do not provide adequate supporting documentation for Veterans' Preference will not receive this positive factor consideration.

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy or gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement:

https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Reasonable_Accommodation_Policy_Statement

Legal and Regulatory Guidance:

https://help.usajobs.gov/index.php/Legal_and_Regulatory_Guidance

Relocation expenses will not be paid.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION EMPLOYER

The Department of the Navy is an Equal Opportunity/ Reasonable Accommodation Employer. All hiring and advancement in the Office of the General Counsel is based on merit without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation or marital status.

The Department of the Navy provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should inform the individual identified in the personnel notice. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

VETERANS PREFERENCE IN HIRING

Department of the Navy attorney positions are in the excepted service, not the competitive civil service. There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of the Navy considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. If you are eligible for veterans' preference in hiring, you are encouraged to include that information in your application along with the supporting documentation, e.g., DD 214. Not all veterans are eligible for veterans' preference. To find out if you are, you may visit the Veterans' Preference Advisor, operated by the Department of Labor at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/vets/vetpref/vetspref.htm>.